

An
ORDINANCE
OF THE
LORDS and COMMONS
Assembled in
PARLIAMENT
FOR

The more effectuall putting in execution

The Directory

For publique worship, in all Parish Churches
and Chappels within the Kingdome of *England* and
Dominion of *Wales*, and for the disperfing of them
in all places and Parishes within this
Kingdom, and the Dominion
of *Wales*.

Ordered by the Lords Assembled in Parliament, That this
Ordinance be forthwith printed and published.

22. Aug. 1645.

Job. Brown Cler. Parliamentarium.

LONDON,

Printed for *John Wright* at the Kings Head in
the old Bayley. 1646.

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The more efficient printing in execution

The Dictionary

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23. *August* 1645.

An Ordinance of the Lords and
Commons assembled in Parliament for the
more effectuall putting in execution the
Directory for publique worship, &c.

NHereas by an Ordinance of Parliament made the third day of *January* last past, and intituled an Ordinance of Parliament, for the taking away the booke of Common Prayer, and for establishing and putting in execution of the Directory for the publique Worship of God. It was (amongst other things therein contained) Ordained : That the said Book of Common Prayer should not remaine, or be from thenceforth used in any Church, Chappell, or place of publique Worship within the Kingdome of *England* and Dominion of *Wales*; and that the Directory for publique Worship, in the said recited Ordinance set forth, should be from thenceforth used, pursued and observed, according to the true intent and meaning of the said Ordinance, in all ex-

offices of the publique Worship of God in every
 Congregation, Church, Chappell, and place of pub-
 lique Worship within this Kingdome of England,
 and Dominion of Wales, yet nevertheless in re-
 gard that in or by the said recited Ordinance, there
 was no speciall direction made or contayned for the
 speedy dispersing of the said Directory, into the se-
 verall Parishes within the Kingdome of England
 and Dominion of Wales, and publishing of the same
 Directory, nor any punishment set downe either for
 the using of the said Booke of Common Prayer, or
 for the Non using or depraving of the said Directory:
 by means whereof there hath been, as yet little fruit
 of the said Ordinance. The Lords and Commons
 assembled in Parliament, taking the premises into
 serious consideration, doe Ordaine, That the Knights
 and Burgeses of the severall Counties, shall send
 printed Booke of the said Directory for Gods Wor-
 ship fairely bound up in Leather, unto the Commis-
 saries of Parliament residing in the said severall res-
 pective Counties, who shall with all convenient
 speed send the same, and cause them to be delivered
 unto the severall respective Constables, or other Of-
 ficers of all the severall Parishes, and respective
 Chappelltries and Donatives, within the Kingdome
 of England, and Dominion of Wales, and Port
 and Towne of Berwicke, (That is to say) One
 Booke unto the respective Constables, and other Of-
 ficers of every one of the said Parishes, Chappelltries
 and Donatives, to be paid for by the Inhabitants
 within the said severall Parishes and Chappelltries.

And

(2)
And it is further hereby Ordained by the Lords and
Commons: That the severall and respective Constables
or other Officers, shall within one weeke after
their Receipts of the said Bookes of the Directory deli-
ver the said Bookes unto the severall and respective
Ministers of the said Parishes, upon paine that every
of the said Constables, or other Officers, that shall
make default therein, shall forfeit and pay for every
such default, the summe of five shillings of lawfull
English Money.

And it is further hereby Ordained by the said
Lords and Commons, that the said severall Mini-
sters shall on the next Lords day after their Receipt
of the said Bookes of the Directory, before the morn-
ning service, openly read in their severall Churches
and Chappells, the said Directory for the publique
Worship of God.

And it is further hereby Ordained by the said
Lords and Commons: that if any person or persons
whatsoever shall at any time or times hereafter use
or cause the aforesaid Bookes of Common Prayer to
be used in any Church, Chappell or publique place
of Worship, or in any private place or Family,
within the Kingdome of England or Dominion of
Wales, or Port and Towne of Berwick, That then
every such person so offending therein, shall for the
first offence forfeit and pay the summe of five pounds
of lawfull English money, for the second offence the
summe of ten pounds, and for the third offence shall
suffer one whole yeare imprisonment without baile
or Mainprize.

And it is further hereby Ordained by the said Lords and Commons, that the severall and respective Ministers of all Parishes, Churches, and Chappels within the said Kingdome of *England* and Dominion of *Wales*, and Port and Towne of *Barwicke*, shall respectively from time to time, and at all times hereafter (as much as shall in them lye) pursue and observe the Directory for publique Worship established by Ordinance of Parliament, according to the true intent and meaning thereof.

And it is further Ordained, that every Minister which shall not henceforth pursue and observe the Directory for publique worship, according to the true intent and meaning thereof, in all exercises of the publique worship of God within this Realme of *England* and Dominion of *Wales*, and within the Towne and Port of *Barwicke*, shall for every time that he shall so offend, lose and forfeit the summe of forty shillings of lawfull English money. And that what person soever shall with intent to bring the said Directory into contempt and neglect, or to raise opposition against it, Preach, Write, Print, or cause to be written or printed any thing in the derogation or depraving of the said Book, or any thing therein contained, or any part thereof, shall lose and forfeit for every such offence, such a summe of Money as shall at the time of his conviction, be thought fit to be imposed upon him, by those before whom he shall have his tryall, provided, that it be not lesse then five pounds, nor exceeding the summe of fifty pounds.

And be it further Ordained by the authority aforesaid,

said, that no person or persons shall be at any time hereafter impeached or molested, of, or for any of the offences last above mentioned, hereafter to be committed or done contrary to this Ordinance, unless he or they so offending be thereof indicted at the next or second generall Sessions, to be holden before any Justice of Oyre and Terminer, or Justices of Assize, or before the Justices of Peace at their generall quarter Sessions next after any offence committed or done, contrary to the tenor of this Ordinance, and that he be thereof lawfully convicted according to the Lawes of this Realme, by Verdict of twelve men, or by his owne confession.

Provided also, and be it Ordained by the authority aforesaid, That the Lord Major of *London*, and all other Majors, Bailiffs, and all other Head Officers of all and singular Cities, Burroughs and Towns Corporate within this Realme, and *Dominion of Wales*, to the which Justices of Assize doe not commonly repaire, and that have Commissions of Goale delivery directed unto them, or are Counties of themselves, shall have full power and authority, by vertue of this Ordinance to inquire, heare, and determine the offences afore-mentioned, and every of them yearly within fifteene daies after the twenty fifth day of March, and the nine and twentieth day of *September*, in like manner and forme, as Justices of Assize, and Oyre and Terminer may doe.

And it is further Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, that all Mults and Penalties inflicted by this Ordinance, not exceeding the summe of five pounds, shall

shall be leaved and paid to the use of the poore of the Parish where the said offence hath been committed; and that all other fines, according to the said summe of five pounds, shall be to the use of the poore of the County, City, or Borough respectively, where the said Offences shall be committed, to be disposed by the Justices of the Peace, Mayors or Bailiffs respectively, at the next general Sessions, where and when the said summes shall be adjudged.

It is further Ordained and Ordained, That all Common Prayer Books remaining in Parish Churches and Chappels, shall within a Month after the publishing of this Ordinance, be by the Church Wardens, or Constables of the respective Parishes, under the penalty of forty shillings to be imployed as aforesaid, turned into the Committees of the respective Counties, where they shall be found, to be disposed of as the Parliament shall direct.

F. N. I. S.

And it is further Ordained by the Authority aforesaid, That all Statutes and Ordinances made by the Kings and Queens of England, not exceeding the summe of five pounds, shall be leaved and paid to the use of the poore of the Parish where the said offence hath been committed; and that all other fines, according to the said summe of five pounds, shall be to the use of the poore of the County, City, or Borough respectively, where the said Offences shall be committed, to be disposed by the Justices of the Peace, Mayors or Bailiffs respectively, at the next general Sessions, where and when the said summes shall be adjudged.

